

S.N. 10/614,074 – First Resp. to 2/26/07 OA

Attorney Docket TKM-1005-U.S.

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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SPECIFICATION

Please amend lines 2 and 9 of original page 5 as set out on the attached revised copy of said page 5.

Please amend line 19 of original page 6 as set out on the attached revised copy of said page 6.

Please amend line 1 of original page 9 as set out on the attached revised copy of said page 9.

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access holes, here four, are indicated at 15, 16, 17 and 18, two in each of the style lines 13 and 14. said access holes being located in the exterior viewable surface of the face plate 10 spaced inwardly from the edges thereof as seen in Figure 1. It will be understood that although the presence of the style lines is desirable they are not essential. Their presence does however tend to further disguise the access holes 15-18. As will be seen hereafter, it is preferable that the holes be no wider than, and preferably slightly smaller than, the width of the style lines although in this instance they are slightly wider than the style line. When faceplate 10 is assembled to similar faceplates to form a group, the access holes become features which are virtually undiscernible to the human eye from a few feet away and the front face 19 becomes simply a portion of a much larger wall space due to the abutting relationship of the face plates which together form said much larger wall space. It is not possible to assign a specific number of feet at which the holes become virtually undiscernible to the human eye. In probably a majority of situations, the access holes become indiscernible to the human eye at about 2-4 feet during daylight conditions.

[16] In Figure 2 a fastening assembly for securing the faceplate 10 to a supporting structure, indicated generally at 21, is indicated at 22. Niche means, to which easy access is being denied by this invention, are indicated at 23 in Figure 3 but have been omitted from Figure 2 for convenience of description.

[17] The right or access end of the fastening assembly as viewed in Figure 2 is received in a rear hole 24 formed in the interior hidden surface or rear face 25 of faceplate 10. A smaller diameter access hole 15 is formed in the front face 19 of the

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faceplate 10, said hole 15 being axially concentric with rear hole 24. Hole 15 is formed in the left style line 13. The diameter of hole 15 may range from slightly smaller to slightly larger than the width of style line 13; here it is slightly larger.

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[18] The left, or anchor end, of the fastening assembly is received in a hole 28 formed in the wall 29 of supporting structure 21.

[19] The fastening assembly 22 includes a torx security screw, indicated generally at 31, a short piece of tubing, preferably made of stainless steel, indicated generally at 32, and a conventional rivet nut indicated generally at 33.

[20] Rivet nut 33 has a thick base portion 34, which is threaded as at 35 to receive the torx screw 31, and a thin shank portion 36 which terminates in flange 37. Tubing 32 has four slots, three of which are indicated at 38, 39 and 40 in its right or front end. The head 41 of screw 31 has been modified slightly in that the side wall of the head is tapered inwardly as at 42 toward the shank portion 43. The diameter of flat end 26 of head 41 plus double the thickness of the wall of tubing 32, when added together, are slightly less than the diameter of rear hole 24.

[21] Figure 3 illustrates the fastening assembly 22 in an activated condition. Initially the thick base portion 34 and thin shank portion 36 are slide into hole 23 until flange 37 butts against the right outside surface (as viewed in Figure 2) of wall 29 of the supporting structure 21. A tool, not shown, having a snout which has an external thread which mates with thread 35 is then threadably engaged with the threaded hole in base 34. The handles on the tool are closed, forcing the thick base portion 34 with the threaded hole 35 against the inside face of wall 29, crimping the thin shank 36 in the process, until the ~~rivet~~ rivet nut 33 assumes the contour shown in Figure 3; i.e.: with the think shank portion 36 crimped outwardly to form a flange

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the diameter of front hole 15 of faceplate 10 so that a standard sized torx screwdriver having a diameter equal to portion 65 all the way to the left end of shank 56 cannot gain access to the socket 53 in the top surface 26 of the tapered end 42 of the torx screw 31.

[28] In operation, after assembly of the screw 31, tubing 32 and rivet nut-nut 33 with hole 28 in supporting structure 21, the torx screwdriver is applied just sufficiently to snug up the assembled parts. After four such assemblies have been so assembled to the supporting structure, as represented by access holes 15, 16, 17 and 18 of Figure 1, the faceplate 10 is then slid onto the outwardly projecting assemblies. Once the faceplate is received on the four fastening assemblies, the torx screwdriver 54 engages screw 31 through hole 15 to cause the taper 42 on the head of the screw to expand the prongs 38, 39, etc. outwardly into engagement with the bore wall of hole 24. Preferably the prongs are deformed, as indicated in Figure 3, to an extent less than their elastic limit. Stainless steel is the preferred material for tubing 32 and its associated prongs 38, 39.

[29] When it is desired to activate the niche behind faceplate 10 at a future date – which may be years after initial installation – the torx screwdriver 54 rotates the screw 31 in the opposite direction, the prongs relax, and the faceplate 10 is lifted off. After the niche is filled with an urn or other object and sealed, the faceplate is again attached to the supporting structure as above described and the screw 31 is tightened as hard as possible so that removal of the faceplate is made as difficult as possible.

[30] Although torx screwdrivers are available in standard sizes, the inability of a torx screwdriver of a standard size to be used to loosen screw 31 is prevented by reducing the